

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 NSC-05 CIAE-00
NSCE-00 /042 W

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R 091849Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9619
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0353
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 04135

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, FR, US, OREP (OLIVER R. SPENCER)
SUBJ: FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT: CSCE

REFS: A. PARIS 3876. B. PARIS 3661. C. PARIS 3993.
D. BONN 2377. E. PARIS 3852.

1. SENIOR FRG EMBASSY SOURCE TELLS US THAT FRENCH AND
GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD LONG CSCE DISCUSSION
AT FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT HERE LAST WEEK WHICH RESULTED
IN GREATER RAPPROCHEMENT ON STRUCTURE OF BELGRADE
CONFERENCE.

2. MAIN ISSUE CONCERNED FRENCH PREFERENCE FOR LIMITING
BELGRADE TO PLENARY SESSIONS AT WHICH NATIONAL REPS
WOULD MAKE UNILATERAL PRESENTATIONS OF THEIR ASSES-
MENTS OF IMPLEMENTATION. THIS WOULD ENABLE FRENCH TAKE
PRECISE BUT UNEMOTIONAL LOW-KEY APPROACH. FRG, SOURCE
SAID, WHILE SHARING THESE OBJECTIVES PREFERRED MORE
THOROUGH TECHNIQUE OF ESTABLISHING COMMISSIONS, WHOSE
FINDINGS COULD BE EMBODIED IN COMMUNIQUE.

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3. TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS APPARENTLY REACHED UNDER-
STANDING ON COMPROMISE APPROACH INVOLVING A 1-2 WEEK
INITIAL PLENARY PHASE, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A SIMILAR
PERIOD OF WORKING GROUPS, ORGANIZED BY BASKETS. THIS
WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY FINAL PHASE ON PLENARY BASIS.
FRG ALSO GOT FRENCH AGREEMENT THAT COMMUNIQUE TOO COULD
BE SOMEWHAT MORE THAN "SKELETAL," AS FRENCH DESIRE, AND

COULD BE FLESHED OUT WITH SOME OF WORKING GROUPS' FINDINGS.

4. SOURCE SAID THAT, WITH REFERENCE TO CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S GREATER PUBLIC EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN BLOC, DE GUIRINGAUD ALSO ASKED GENSCHER IF FRG FELT SUFFICIENT PUBLIC PRESSURE TO ADOPT SIMILAR APPROACH. THE GERMANS REPLIED IN NEGATIVE, EXCEPT FOR PRESSURES IN BUNDESTAG. IT WAS CONSEQUENTLY AGREED THAT TWO SIDES WOULD CONTINUE NOT TO TAKE OFFICIAL PUBLIC POSITIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, PARTICULARLY SINCE EUROPEAN PRESS EMPHASIS SUFFICIENT KEEP ISSUES ALIVE. OUR FRG COLLEAGUE EMPHASIZED THAT BOTH THESE BILATERAL UNDERSTANDINGS OF COURSE WERE NOT BINDING ON NINE, BUT WOULD BE REFLECTED IN EC WORKING GROUPS.

5. VISIT OF STAFFDEL GUY CORIDEN--WHO CAME TO PARIS FOR FEBRUARY 9 MEETINGS WITH QUAI CSCE COORDINATOR BEAUCHATAUD AND EMBASSY AFTER STAFFDEL OLIVER'S PLANS FOR FEBRUARY 10 PROVED UNWORKABLE (REFTEL E)--OFFERED OPPORTUNITY TEST ABOVE AT QUAI WORKING LEVEL.

6. THERE BEAUCHATAUD CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE STRONG FRENCH PREFERENCE FOR ORGANIZING BELGRADE ON PLENARY LINES, ON INCONSISTENT GROUNDS THAT IT WOULD: (A) ENABLE DELEGATIONS GIVE MORE PRECISE AND THEREFORE PUBLICLY MORE EFFECTIVE PRESENTATIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION THAN COMMITTEE APPROACH WHERE THINGS GET WATERED DOWN AND CONFUSED; AND (B) WOULD BE LESS LIKELY TO RISK CONFIDENTIAL

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PUTTING USSR ON DEFENSIVE.

7. NEVERTHELESS, BEAUCHATAUD, FOR FIRST TIME IN MEMORY, ALSO ALLOWED THAT FRENCH WOULD "NOT MAKE MAJOR ISSUE" OF THIS PREFERENCE, AND COULD GO ALONG WITH SOME COMPROMISE ARRANGEMENT MIXING PLENARY WITH COMMITTEE APPROACH.

8. BEAUCHATAUD MADE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS:
--ON DURATION: FRENCH REMAIN AGAINST PROTRACTED BELGRADE MEETING, BELIEVE WHOLE PROCESS SHOULD NOT TAKE MORE THAN THREE MONTHS, AND HOPE ADJOURNMENT

NOTE BY OC/T: DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O, MR. STEINER.

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 04135

DATE CAN BE AGREED ON DURING PREPARATORY PHASE. TO
PREVENT POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET FILIBUSTERING TO LIMIT
TIME LEFT FOR BASKET III, THERE SHOULD, NEVERTHELESS,
BE POSSIBILITY OF LATER PROLONGATION BY CONSENSUS.

--ON FOLLOW-UP: FRENCH WILL BE PREPARED TO
FOLLOW THE CONSENSUS. THEY HAVE IMPRESSION SOVIETS
WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AVOID AGREEING TO AT LEAST ONE
MORE REVIEW CONFERENCE, ALTHOUGH, IF DISSIDENT PROBLEMS
GET WORSE, POSSIBILITY CANNOT BE WHOLLY EXCLUDED THAT
THEY WOULD PREFER TO STOP WITH BELGRADE.

--ON NEW PROPOSALS: FRENCH REMAIN STRONGLY
OPPOSED TO NEW PROPOSALS WHICH COULD "OPEN UP" FINAL
ACT TO ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS, SINCE SOVS UNDOUBTEDLY
HAVE WHOLE STRING OF DEBILITATING PROPOSALS TO SUBMIT
IF THIS WERE DONE AND COULD THUS ENDANGER FINAL ACT.
IF NEW PROPOSALS ARE CONSIDERED THEY SHOULD ONLY CENTER
ON WAYS OF MAKING IMPLEMENTATION FINAL ACT MORE
EFFECTIVE, BUT SHOULD NOT ADD TO IT. FRENCH WERE
STUDYING SUCH A PROPOSAL IN CULTURAL FIELD, BUT HAD
REACHED NO DECISION WHETHER TO PUT IT FORWARD.
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--ON US PROPOSALS: FOR THESE REASONS BEAUCHATAUD
WAS ALSO GENERALLY RESERVED ABOUT PROPOSALS US HAD PUT

FORWARD, BUT CLAIMED HE HAD NOT YET STUDIED THEM IN
DETAIL.

--ON LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION: FRENCH WOULD
PROBABLY SEND MINISTER-PLENIPOTENTIARY OR EX-AMBASSADOR.

9. AS FOR THE QUAI'S OWN ACTIVITIES IN CSCE FIELD,
FRENCH HAVE NOW HANDED THEIR BASKET II QUESTIONNAIRES
TO ALMOST ALL THE EE COUNTRIES, MOST RECENTLY TO THE
BULGARIANS. IN UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE
YUGOSLAVS THIS WEEK QUAI INTENDS TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTA-
TION AS USUAL, AND THEN DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR
BELGRADE, INCLUDING ORGANIZATION, DURATION, AND DATES.
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